

MAY 02 2003

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Matter of the Application of: Swank et al.
Serial No.: 09/904,785

Filed: 7/13/2001

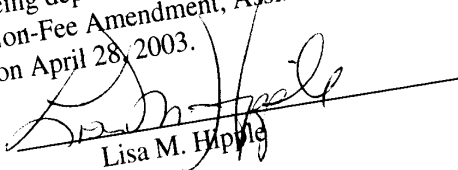
For: **Tension Band with Tension Adjusting Features**

Examiner: Karabi Guharay

Group Art Unit: 2879

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail addressed to Box Non-Fee Amendment, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on April 28, 2003.


Lisa M. Hipple

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Initial Office Action mailed December 18, 2002, and Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated April 9, 2003, Applicants hereby provide corrections to the present application in accordance with the sample amendment provided in the Notice.

Please amend the application as noted below.

No additional fees are believed to be necessary. However, any necessary extension fees may be charged to Deposit Account No. 07-0832.